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Completion of a number of roads in Szechwan will expedite meeting the transportation needs of prospectors and developers of natural resources of the province.

For the whole Southwest Region, in 1953, the average monthly tonnage transported during the period January - April was 82.21 percent greater than the monthly average for 1952. For May and June 1953, the tonnage averaged more than 10 percent greater than in the first 3 months of the year. Apart from the movement outward of cereals and other native products which showed some increase, most of the increase was due to the transportation inward of materials and mechanical equipment for basic construction and daily necessities. For example, a large part of the basic construction materials and equipment bound for Yunnan, moved through Kweichow and the average monthly tonnage transported on the highways of Kweichow January - April 1953 was more than double the figure for the corresponding period in 1952.

Concerning the Tsinghai-Tibet highway, work in 1953 is on the section from Huang-ho-yen to Ch'a-la-p'ing, the point where the highway is to cross the summit of the Pa-yen-k'a-la Shan range. At this point the elevation of 4,950 meters. Since starting work in May and up to the present, 130,000 cubic meters of earth and stone work have been accomplished. It is expected that the work goal for 1953 will be attained before the end of September. Bridges have to be built across the Yellow River at Huang-ho-yen and across the Ta-hei Ho. A temporary wooden bridge across the Yellow River has already been built to permit supplies to be moved to work sites south of the river.

YELLOW RIVER BRIDGE FOR TSINGHAI-TIBET HIGHWAY COMPLETED -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 12 Aug 53

(Hsin-hua) -- The temporary wood bridge at Huang-ho-yen on the Tsinghai -- Tibet motor road was finished 16 July 1953, thus permitting trucks loaded with supplies and materials to cross the Yellow River en route to work sites in the vicinity of the Ta-hei Ho and the Pa-yen-k'a-la Shan. The summit of the latter is 98 kilometers from Huang-ho-yen, and at an elevation of 4,398 meters above sea level. The length of the bridge at Huang-ho-yen is 110 meters, and its width 5 meters.

WORK ON SIKANG-TIBET HIGHWAY PROCEEDING FROM LHASA END -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 8 Aug 53

Lhasa (Hsin-hua) -- Preparation of the roadbed of the Sikang-Tibet motor road is being pushed eastward from Lhasa toward T'ai-chao, as well as westward from Ch'ang-tu. The high elevation west of Ch'ang-tu has been passed, construction is approaching T'ang-ku-la Shan, after which a region of dense forest will be reached. Health stations have been established at a number of points to care for cases of illness and accidents, and movable supply stores or canteens on trucks sell at cost a variety of small articles to the laborers along the road. If the earthwork required for the construction of this highway were to be put into a dike one square meter in cross section, the dike would extend from Mukden to Lhasa.

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